



Tennessee Crop Weather

Tennessee Field Office • PO Box 41505 • Nashville, TN 37204 • (615) 781-5300 • www.nass.usda.gov
In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending September 18, 2011

CROP HARVEST --- THE MAIN FARM ACTIVITY

Tennessee farmers continued to concentrate on shelling corn last week, but also started harvesting early-planted soybeans and cotton. With the benefit of cooler temperatures and recent showers pastures continued to improve and were rated in mostly fair condition. Cotton defoliation, hay harvest, and fall forage seeding continued. Some hay producers are hoping for a third cutting. Silage harvest is about completed.

There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork across the state. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 8 percent very short, 23 percent short, 66 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 9 percent very short, 28 percent short, 61 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. Temperatures across Tennessee averaged 2 to 7 degrees below normal. Rainfall averaged slightly below normal over most of the state.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2010	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Mature	92	82	98	88	Cotton	2	5	28	56	9
Corn – Harvested for Grain	59	42	82	56	Pastures	7	23	41	27	2
Corn – Silage Harvested	94	90	96	92	Soybeans	6	13	35	43	3
Cotton – Bolls Opening	68	52	90	73						
Cotton – Defoliated	30	10	64	31						
Cotton – Harvested	1	n/a	13	5						
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	42	24	64	55						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	70	58	72	71						
Tobacco – Dark Air-Cured Harvested	87	79	90	88						
Tobacco – Dark Fire-Cured Harvested	75	66	82	79						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“Much needed rain finally arrived for most cropping areas of the county. This most certainly improves cropping conditions for late planted crops.”

J.C. Dupree, Jr., Lauderdale County

“Some areas of the county receive 1-3 tenths of an inch of rain on Wednesday. Corn harvest has stalled as grain moisture is holding steady. Cotton defoliation has started by fluctuating temperatures have made defoliation tricky. A very limited number of acres have been harvested.”

Richard Buntin, Crockett County

“The farmers in Fayette County were busy harvesting corn and defoliating cotton this week. We did receive trace amounts of rain but not enough to keep farmers out of the field. We are still dry and the crops look about like last week, just maturing.”

Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

“Scattered thunderstorms mid-week followed this summer's pattern by giving the northern parts of the county 1" to 3" of rain, while southern parts of the county picked up a trace to 1/2". Corn harvest is ongoing with yields hanging in the 110 to 150 range. Some early maturing soybeans have been harvested with yields running in the low 40's.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“Corn harvesting started back after last week's rain. Some producers reporting lower yields due to the summers dry spells. Pastures and late beans are looking much better than 2 weeks ago.”

Kevin Rose, Giles County

“Pastures have turned around since the rain. Harvesting had picked up until Thursday when the wet weather came in.”

Larry Moorehead, Moore County

“Mild temperatures dominated the week with highs in the mid 80's to start the week dropping to the mid 70's at week's end after a cold front passed through on Thursday. Light rain and drizzle Wednesday evening and Thursday ahead of the cold front produced about a quarter of an inch of rain. Low's ranged from the mid 60's down to the low 50's. Farmers have been busy this week harvesting corn. Some limited soybean harvest took place this week. Forage producers worked on planting pastures and small grain.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Some work done this week as ground dried, especially chopping of corn silage. Light showers early this morning.”

Scott Chadwell, Putnam County

“Mild temperatures, a few showers. Cool temps have slowed crops. Farmers are busy combining, sowing some wheat and getting ready to dig nursery.”

Dale Beaty, Warren County

“Cooler temperatures and the moisture brought last week by tropical storm Lee are helping some pastures to recover. However, some grass stands have been lost and many livestock producers continue to feed hay. Corn grain harvest is gaining momentum as fields begin to dry down.”

John Wilson, Blount County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: September 18, 2011 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending September 18, 2011				Current Week 09/18/11	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	94	50	71	-2	0.35	1	39.54	1.79	27.02	3.04
Brownsville_TN	93	53	70	-3	0.00	0	42.30	4.59	29.72	5.81
Covington	93	52	69	-4	0.93	1	43.84	7.00	32.15	8.99
Dyersburg	94	55	71	-3	0.00	0	36.12	0.12	22.95	-0.23
Huntingdon_Wate	92	51	69	-3	0.60	1	43.74	5.68	29.43	5.13
Jackson_Exp_Stn	94	53	69	-3	0.35	2	43.46	6.03	31.62	7.47
Lexington_TN	92	52	69	-4	0.81	2	37.66	1.21	26.13	2.87
Martin	94	51	70	-2	2.01	2	48.48	10.53	32.03	7.32
Memphis_AG	95	55	72	-3	0.08	1	42.72	5.83	31.10	7.70
Milan	92	51	69	-3	0.54	2	46.85	7.77	32.90	7.44
Paris	90	50	68	-3	2.05	4	50.75	13.03	34.76	10.55
Savannah_6SW	92	47	69	-5	0.15	2	43.72	2.99	29.18	3.91
Selmer	92	48	70	-3	0.44	2	41.44	1.54	29.11	4.45
Union_City	90	52	67	-4	0.98	1	45.99	9.01	30.82	7.02
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	86	49	67	-4	0.74	3	52.27	15.82	37.86	15.06
Cookeville	85	47	65	-5	0.32	2	53.15	11.68	36.68	10.24
Crossville_AP	83	46	65	-3	0.39	3	44.95	4.35	30.30	4.72
Dickson_AG	88	49	67	-4	0.75	1	41.59	2.63	26.42	1.47
Dover_1W	90	51	68	-2	0.75	1	51.16	13.33	34.57	10.64
Fayetteville_TN	88	49	69	-2	0.47	1	49.19	10.49	32.51	9.09
Jamestown	85	46	64	-4	0.15	3	52.99	12.80	35.34	8.99
Kingston_Spring	91	48	68	-3	1.21	1	39.51	2.14	26.42	3.02
Lawrenceburg_Fl	89	50	68	-2	0.22	2	44.72	4.49	30.84	6.43
Lewisburg	89	46	66	-4	0.42	2	48.11	8.68	32.85	8.00
Linden	90	50	68	-2	0.67	2	41.67	1.68	28.83	3.83
Livingston_WLIV	87	47	66	-4	0.12	2	52.43	13.86	33.34	8.29
Murfreesboro_5N	89	49	67	-4	0.49	4	46.65	7.95	32.67	7.75
Nashville_Metro	89	51	70	-3	0.37	1	38.90	4.25	26.45	4.04
Oneida	86	46	63	-4	0.17	2	57.23	17.20	38.40	12.24
Portland_TN	87	49	68	-3	0.09	2	44.54	7.08	28.50	4.34
Pulaski_Water_P	86	49	66	-7	0.51	2	51.56	11.97	36.77	12.57
Shelbyville	92	49	70	-2	0.31	2	50.09	10.47	33.72	8.98
Sparta_TN	88	46	66	-4	1.04	3	51.46	11.45	35.78	10.34
Springfield	88	49	68	-2	0.61	3	44.74	8.79	30.47	7.39
Springhill	92	47	68	-3	0.65	2	37.24	-2.27	24.88	-0.02
Tullahoma	88	52	70	-2	0.18	1	43.28	2.54	29.25	4.48
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	90	56	71	-3	0.01	1	44.60	5.75	26.21	3.09
Cleveland_6NNE	89	54	68	-3	0.01	1	43.15	3.40	28.72	4.53
Dayton	88	54	68	-4	0.48	2	44.67	3.92	27.97	3.24
Erwin_1W	85	48	63	-4	0.12	2	39.14	2.14	27.63	2.14
Gatlinburg_2SW	85	51	65	-3	0.24	1	46.78	4.18	32.33	3.67
Greeneville	87	49	65	-5	0.15	1	35.73	3.57	25.11	3.64
Kingston_AG	87	54	68	-2	0.49	2	45.16	2.61	28.71	2.24
Knoxville_AP	87	53	69	-3	0.12	1	38.28	3.47	24.32	2.83
Newcomb	85	43	64	-3	0.14	2	47.17	7.14	32.66	6.50
Norris_4NE	84	48	67	-3	0.40	1	46.96	8.20	30.41	5.54
Tri-City_RGNL_A	86	49	66	-3	0.19	2	35.56	5.04	22.81	2.66

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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